

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1.-7. (cancelled)

8. (currently amended) A method of screening whether an agent, conjugate or conjugate moiety is a substrate of a transporter, comprising:

providing a cell expressing a nucleic acid ~~as defined by claim 4~~ having a sequence that is at least 80% identical to a polynucleotide sequence as set forth in SEQ ID NO:1 over a region of at least 100 nucleotides in length when compared using the BLASTN algorithm with a wordlength (W) of 11, M=5, and N=4, to produce a transporter encoded by the nucleic acid in an outer membrane of the cell, wherein the transporter has the transporter activity of the transporter encoded by SEQ ID NO:1;

contacting the cell with an agent, conjugate moiety or conjugate; and

determining whether the agent, conjugate moiety or conjugate passes through the transporter.

9. (currently amended) The method of claim 8, wherein the transporter encoded by the nucleic acid has the sequence of SEQ. ID NO: 2.

10. (original) The method of claim 9, wherein the cell is a Chinese hamster ovary cell, a human embryonic kidney cell or an oocyte.

11.-21. (cancelled)

22. (currently amended) A method of screening agents, conjugates or conjugate moieties for capacity to be substrates for a transporter, comprising providing a cell expressing a transporter comprising the an amino acid sequence at least 80% identical to an

amino acid sequence as set forth in SEQ ID NO:2 over a region at least 40 amino acids in length when compared using the BLASTP algorithm with a wordlength(W) of 3, and the BLOSUM62 scoring matrix, wherein the transporter has the transporter activity of the transporter of SEQ ID NO:2, the transporter being situated in the plasma membrane of the cell;

contacting the cell with an agent, conjugate or conjugate moiety; and determining whether the agent, conjugate or conjugate moiety passes through the plasma membrane via the transporter.

23.-28. (cancelled)

29. (new) The method of claim 8, wherein the isolated nucleic acid hybridizes to SEQ ID NO:1 under conditions of high stringency including 50% formamide, 5X SSC, 5X Denhardt's solution, 10 mM sodium phosphate, pH 6.5, 100 µg/ml salmon sperm DNA and at 42°C.

30. (new) The method of claim 8, wherein the isolated nucleic acid has the sequence of SEQ ID NO:1.

31. (new) The method of claim 22, wherein the amino acid sequence is 100% identical to SEQ ID NO:2.

32. (new) The method of claim 22, wherein the transporter specifically binds to an antibody that specifically binds to a polypeptide of SEQ ID NO:2.